

## **Regional Fire Committee – Service Enhancements January 31, 2011**

Scio Township, Webster Township,  
Dexter Township, and Village of Dexter

1

## **Regional Fire Committee**

- Started meeting in September 2009 to explore whether improvements to service and cost savings could be realized if Dexter Village, Dexter Township, Scio Township and Webster Township formed a regional fire department

2

## **First Group Meeting**

- An introductory presentation was held with the 4 boards on September 23, 2010 to provide an update on the progress to date with a focus on the cost allocation.
- Questions were raised about the types of service enhancements that joining the two departments together could provide.

3

## **Second Group Meeting**

- The Committee invited Chief Rick Royston of the Delhi Charter Township Fire Department to facilitate the conversation due to his experience with evaluating consolidation opportunities and knowledge of the fire service.

4

## Second Group Meeting

- Enhancements broken down into
  - Operational Efficiencies
  - Service Improvements

5

## Operational Efficiencies

- Ability to use apparatus more efficiently
  - Possible to take a smaller piece of apparatus (pick-up, van) to medical calls to reduce wear and tear on large apparatus (fire trucks)
    - Currently the larger piece of apparatus must be taken in case there is a second call requiring a response (occurs approx. 50 times per year)

6

## Operational Efficiencies

- Consolidation of apparatus, equipment, and supplies
  - One ladder truck could serve the needs of the service area
- Ability to more logically distribute the apparatus and equipment within the service area

7

## Operational Efficiencies

- Increased options for staffing
  - Additional resources will be available to spread throughout the collaboration if necessary

8

## Operational Efficiencies

- Centralized administration and management
  - One Chief would oversee the consolidated department
  - Potential for reduction in costs of supplies, equipment, and the repair of equipment
    - Larger bids can result in lower unit prices

9

## Operational Efficiencies

- Consolidation of training expenses
- Standardization of training methods

10

## Operational Efficiencies

- Increased competitiveness in grant opportunities due to a larger service area and more staff

11

## Service Enhancements

- Response time reductions to certain areas
  - Loch Alpine area of Webster Township will be serviced quicker from the current Scio Fire Department location
  - Properties along Dexter-Chelsea and Parker will be serviced quicker from the current DAFD main station

12

## **Service Enhancements**

- Dexter Area Fire Department has more firefighters trained as non-transporting basic EMTs
  - Scio's firefighters are required to be Medical First Responders (MFRs)
  - Overall training level of the new department could be brought up to these standards increasing the level of care available to the residents

13

## **Service Enhancements**

- Increases the number and speed of firefighters arriving to a fire
  - Results in compliance with Occupational Safety & Health Administration's (OSHA) 2 in 2 out rule with full time staff
    - Rule states that firefighters can not enter a building on fire until there are 2 to go in and 2 outside to rescue them if necessary

14

## **Service Enhancements**

- Establishes consistent protocols within the 4 communities in the areas of:
  - Response
  - Training
  - Fire Inspection
  - Fire Education
  - Fire Investigation

15

## **Next Steps**

- Participating communities pass a resolution of support for continuing the process
- Committee drafts transition plan
- Units review and adopt transition plan

16